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Moose stands with our troops, past and present

Cover story pgs. 12-20

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ceo's column

In addition to being the TV remote control for my dad, I was often the answering machine for incoming calls. Before caller ID, answering machines and voicemail, you had to actually pick up our orange rotary dial phone to find out who was calling.

Having just started four days off in his 12-hour swing-shift schedule, and knowing it may be the plant calling for overtime help, my dad would shout from the living room, "If it's work, I'm not here." I would answer, talk with the plant foreman, then holler, "Dad it's Goodrich," lay down the phone and run out the back door!

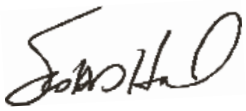
A recent phone call into the CEO's office was from a member by the name of Marylin, a 71-year member, having joined the local WOTM chapter to follow in her mother's footsteps. An avid reader of the *Moose* magazine, she began the call by sharing her joy in all the positive changes in our Fraternity, our care for the children at Mooseheart and seeing the smiles on our Moosehaven residents in each issue.

Then she shared her personal story, how in 1964, eight days after giving birth to her third child, she had a life-altering nervous breakdown. Unable to care for her young children, 12 chapter members heard of Marylin's need and came alongside her every day for five straight years.

These angels in human form did all the shopping, cleaning, cooking and caring for the children for nearly 2,000 straight days. In 1969, Marylin was able to get the right medical treatment that returned her to 100% and to her family. What an incredible story of blessing, care and commitment by our exceptional members!

So, when the phone rings and someone on the other end of the line needs your help, will you answer the call? Maybe it's just to talk, a ride to an appointment or a greater need of help. Whether it is five minutes or five hours, your willingness to assist can change someone's life for the better. Don't miss the opportunity to not only Embrace our Community, but to be there to meet the needs of our fellow Moose brothers and sisters. Let's slightly alter a good movie line – "Who you gonna call? The Moose Fraternity!" God Bless! ■

P.S. "Marylin, please give me a call when you have an opportunity, I may need your help getting back into the house."



Scott Hart *CEO, PSG PIP*

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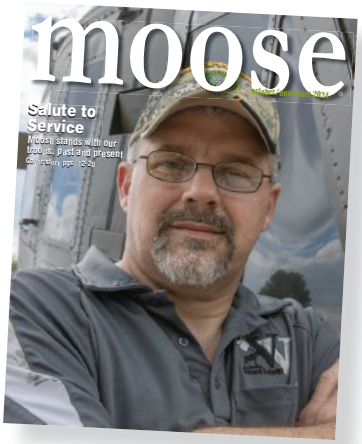

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member password: 2014

The Lodge/Chapter section of Moose magazine contained errors in the caption to the photo of Joan Eden, who is a member of ***Harvard, IL Lodge 1209****. Eden was honored by her lodge after she received a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Illinois Moose Association.*

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Cruise Guide

Making a Difference — It's What We Do!

Middleton, OH Lodge 201 *members built 50 beds recently in support of their local chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace. A nationwide organization, Sleep in Heavenly Peace has a slogan of, "No kid sleeps on the floor in our town," and recently celebrated the building of its 200,000th bed.*

West Marion, FL Lodge 2356 *recently presented a $1,250 check for the Food 4 Kids Backpack program sponsored by Interfaith Emergency Services of Marion County. The lodge's donation allowed the organization to feed 50 children for one month.*

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Ocala Forest, FL Lodge 2535 *and the Twisted Sisters motorcycle riders recently presented an $11,700 check to the Marion County Animal Shelter. The money was raised during the Moose lodge's second annual animal shelter motorcycle run. The shelter also received treats, food and animal bedding.*

On one busy June day, ***West Marion, FL Lodge 2356*** *members volunteered time at local food pantry Feeding His Sheep, then delivered 517 pounds of baby food to Interfaith Emergency Services.*

West Nashville, TN Lodge 2221 *delivered school supplies and made a cash donation to Gower Elementary School.*

Shelbyville, TN Lodge 2197 *participated in the local "Fill the Bus" fundraiser. The program ensures that students have the tools and materials to succeed as they start their school year.*

Making a Difference — It's What We Do!

Vero Beach, FL Lodge 1822 *and* ***Vero Beach, FL Chapter 1541*** *recently hosted a back to school bash for local students and combined that event with a Tommy Moose donation to Indian River County Fire Rescue, Station 2.*

Zion-Benton, IL Lodge 667 p*resented a local family with a check for $2,500 following a trivia fundraiser. The family's son is battling cancer and the money will help with medical expenses.*

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So Many Great Events

*In the photo at left, **Cortland, OH Lodge 1012's** moose mascot greeted athletes and children who attended the Ohio Special Olympics Summer Games. In the photo above, lodge administrator Kaitlyn Camp (far left) presented Tommy Moose plush dolls to local fire and police departments.*

***South Lake Tahoe, CA Lodge 1632** held a barbecue fundraiser to support a local Babe Ruth Baseball team as it raised money to travel to Bakersfield, CA for regional playoffs.*

*Members of **Bradenton, FL Lodge 1223** donated supplies this summer to help the local School District of Manatee County's annual Back To School Drive.*

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So Many Great Events

Members from many Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota lodges and Moose Legions (top photo) drove to Camp Ross and performed a variety of repair and cleaning projects, including staining the director's cabin. Those hard-working Moose performed more than two months of projects in one afternoon. Above, Illinois Moose Legion members held their annual summer cookout, which was attended by Mooseheart students.

Moose members performed Community Service at the International Convention in New Orleans. "It is one of our great traditions that we want to leave a positive impact on the less fortunate in our convention cities," Coordinator of Activities and Heart of the Community Will Harrison said.

Grace at the Greenlight

This year, the Moose supported Grace at the Green Light, an organization that offers New Orleans' unhoused population choices while providing for their basic needs in a loving manner that embraces the human spirit.

Moose members filled bags with basic necessity products such as deodorant, soap toothpaste, sunscreen and more.

"We see about 200 people a day, to service their basic needs, and bags like these are critical to their survival," Executive Director Sarah Parks said.

Moose presented the organization with a $23,000 check.

The Moose will perform a Community Service event as part of the International Convention in Milwaukee in 2025.

***South Lake Tahoe, CA Lodge 1632** sponsored an "Adopt a Day" at the local Bread and Broth. Moose provided a hot meal and also food donations that those in-need could take home.*

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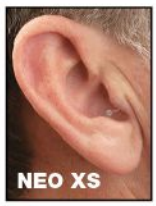

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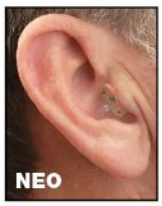

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Salute To Service

Moose stands with our troops, past and present

For more than a century, the Moose has been proud to honor military service. Since 2016, that attention to members' service has been taken to a deeper level with the Valued Veterans program. Through that program, members of the Moose who are veterans self-identify at *www.mooseintl.org*. In addition to receiving a certificate honoring their service, lodges hold functions to honor their Valued Veterans.

More than that, the Valued Veterans program gives veterans a way to network and also a community of fellow veterans with which to associate within the Fraternity.

Coordinator of Activities and Heart of the Community Will Harrison mentioned at the International Convention in New Orleans that 4,251 members self-identified in 2023-24, which brought the total number of Valued Veterans in the Fraternity to 40,361.

Moose support of those who serve in the military is also as strong as ever. Nowhere was that more evident than the ovation given to Mooseheart graduate and U.S. Marine Gunnery Sgt. Carmen Nicholson when she spoke at the convention.

Lodges and chapters across the U.S. and Canada perform a variety of Community Service events to support service members who are deployed overseas.

Then there are special Moose like Bill Durbin, a member of **Crawfordsville, IN Lodge 6**, who has spearheaded his community's Veteran's Memorial Park.

"It's important to have this park – to honor and celebrate veterans," Durbin said. "It's as simple as that. Seven or eight years ago, my girlfriend and I were in Fairmount, for their James Dean Festival, and we went to the American Legion to have a drink, and we saw they had a park with military equipment. We didn't have anything like that in Crawfordsville. I told people locally that if they were interested, I'd do some research to see what we had to, and everything started in March 2023."

You'd expect Durbin to be passionate about the Veterans Memorial Park if he had served, but that's the thing – he didn't.

"I was waiting to be drafted in 1971-72 and that seemed to be the thing to do at that point, to wait, and the draft never got to me," Durbin said.

If you think Durbin's passion for the park is any less than any of the veterans involved in the project, you'd be wrong.

"To know that the Moose is a part of this and honoring our veterans," is as much as Durbin could say before the emotions got to him and he needed a moment.

"I can't walk into to the park and not get emotional," Durbin continued. "When you see what has happened in just one year, it's unbelievable. It's not just the Moose. The other fraternal organizations and the community have been involved too. It's overwhelming."

continued on p. 14

“It’s important to have this (Veteran’s Memorial) park – to honor and celebrate veterans … To know that the Moose is a part of this and honoring our veterans … I can’t walk into the park and not get emotional.”

— *Bill Durbin (far left),* ***Crawfordsville, IN Lodge 6***

feature

Salute To Service

Moose stands with our troops, past and present

Not every veteran knows the programs that exist to help, and I like to be that person who can help. Being able to help is one of the reasons I became involved in the Moose. I'm fortunate. I was able to serve and return home – and I know there were those who weren't able to do that.

Coy Dickey served in the Army from 1989-2001. He returned to the National Guard in 2005 and served until 2014, including active duty with the National Guard from 2006-2013, and deployment to Iraq from 2007-08. He is a member of **Greencastle, IN Lodge 1592**.

How strongly do you believe in the Valued Veterans program?

It was a blessing to me when the Valued Veterans program came around, because it was a way the Moose are able to honor the service of its veterans. Those veterans are already members of the Moose, and we're still able to serve, just as we did when we were in the military. It is also a way to honor the service of those veterans to the country. I think it's a great program and it's well thought-out. You see the huge numbers of how many there are in the program now, and it will continue to grow as veterans learn about it. That's our job as Moose members and also as Valued Veterans, to communicate with those who were members of the armed forces and who are Moose members. I don't mean any shade on any of the other fraternal organizations, but I know many veterans who are more comfortable in the Moose, and the Valued Veterans program is a large part of that.

How does your lodge honor its Valued Veterans?

If we have a member join the lodge who we know is a veteran, we make sure to ask them if they are aware of the Valued Veterans program, and we encourage them to self-identify. We do this if a member transfers into our lodge, because they may not be aware of the program. One of the ways is through a Veterans Day dinner at the lodge. Not only do we honor all the Valued Veterans in the lodge, but we also present our Valued Veteran of the Year award. Those veterans who have self-identified as Valued Veterans but haven't received their certificates – we present those as well. The Fraternity came up with the program, but it's up to the lodges to get the word out to their members about what the program offers.

How can the Valued Veterans program help veterans?

For example, there are a number of organizations in our community that help veterans who are having issues. I try to keep an eye on that, so I can tell older veterans who may not be aware of certain programs. Not every veteran knows the programs that exist to help, and I like to be that person who can help. Being able to help is one of the reasons I became involved in the Moose. I'm fortunate. I was able to serve and return home – and I know there were those who weren't able to do that.

What do you feel when you see the Veterans Memorial Park in Crawfordsville?

I catch myself looking over at it every time I pass it, which is often, because my son lives in Crawfordsville. When I first saw it, I was amazed at what they had done. That park gives veterans something to tell their children or grandchildren that "this is a part of what I did." It's a great thing that they've done, to build something that all veterans can be proud of.

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Salute To Service

Moose stands with our troops, past and present

Ashley Dorough served in the Navy from 2003-2005. She initially served on the USS Emory S. Land in La Maddalena, Italy, and then went to perform top secret activities. She is a member of **Macon, GA Lodge 1455**.

Why did you decide to join the Moose?

My parents were in the Moose and I knew about the Fraternity since I was a teenager. After leaving the service, I became a Moose member.

What are some benefits of the Valued Veterans program?

I've always wanted the Moose to be more involved in our veterans community, so I was very excited about the integration that was made possible with the Valued Veterans program. Many veterans struggle with how to navigate the VA (Veterans Affairs) or other agencies. I feel like one of the things I can do through the Valued Veterans program is to have that information available to give to them. I want to be there to help bridge the gap.

How deep is your passion for Valued Veterans?

I go to meetings at the lodge and I go to the local VA. I try to learn what their needs are and how the Moose can help. There are things we can donate and other ways we can help. We are all brothers and sisters, those who have served our country. It doesn't matter if they served 30 years before us or if they will serve 30 years after we did, we are all one brotherhood. I have sat down with members who were veterans who didn't know about the Valued Veterans program and some of the ways it can help them.

How does Valued Veterans help the Fraternity?

It's one way to get new members. Veterans can see the benefits they get through the connections that can be made and being a Moose member continues that connection. When veterans get together, there's a banter between the different service branches, and it's something that turns a little weird when civilians are involved. We can get together as veterans, and as Moose, and have that banter, and that's a good thing.

How does your lodge recognize its Valued Veterans?

We're going to have a Veterans Ball in November and we're going to dress up for that. I've talked to my military friends, and one of the things we miss are the Military Balls. We're going to try to have that same thing in our lodge.

What connections do you feel as a Moose who is a veteran?

I served the country when I was in the Navy, and now I serve my community as a Moose. I'm a "server" and I always will be.

continued on p. 18

"Many veterans struggle with how to navigate the VA or other agencies. I feel like one of the things I can do through the Valued Veterans program is to have that information available to give to them. I want to be there to help bridge the gap. I served the country when I was in the Navy, and now I serve my community as a Moose. I am a 'server' and I always will be."

feature

Salute To Service

Moose stands with our troops, past and present

James Massie was drafted and served in the Army as a medic from 1970-71. He is a member of **Joliet, IL Lodge 300**.

How important is the Valued Veterans program to you?

I feel it's important that we honor our veterans as a Fraternity, just as I feel it's important that we honor our veterans as a country. Our country wouldn't be what it is without its veterans, especially those who gave all and sacrificed their lives. When we honor our veterans, we honor the sacrifices they have made, and that people in the military continue to make.

What are some of the ways your lodge honors its Valued Veterans?

We have meals and we are going to put the pictures of all Valued Veterans on the wall in the lodge. We'll give veterans a discount on their meal, and on Veterans Day, there is a dinner, and Valued Veterans' dinners are free.

Is it important for lodges to honor Valued Veterans?

I believe it is. As a veteran, you get a good vibe from helping people. Veterans stick together. It doesn't matter what branch, and the lodge gives us a place where we can be together. The lodge has also made donations to its veterans. There are several things that the lodge has done, and there are ways those of us who are veterans can help the lodge. ■

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Salute To Service

Moose stands with our troops, past and present

Carmen Avila Nicholson

> “I arrived at Mooseheart on April 1, 2004 – a scared 13-year-old girl grappling with the weight of abandonment and uncertainty.
>
> Like many children who find refuge at Mooseheart, I carried with me a heavy heart and a tattered spirit.
>
> It was during my time at Mooseheart that I first learned the meaning of a ‘true community.’ I experienced firsthand the power of compassion and support.”

Carmen Avila Nicholson was a member of the Mooseheart Class of 2008 and is currently a Gunnery Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps. She spoke to the International Convention in New Orleans.

Mooseheart Became The Beacon I Needed

I arrived at Mooseheart on April 1, 2004 – a scared 13-year-old girl grappling with the weight of abandonment and uncertainty. As my family drove away that day, I remember feeling a mix of fear and disbelief, thinking it might be the cruelest April Fools’ joke ever played. Little did I know that Mooseheart would become my sanctuary, a place where hope blossomed amidst the challenges of adjusting to a new school, a new home, and a new state.

Like many children who find refuge at Mooseheart, I carried with me a heavy heart and a tattered spirit. Raised by a grandmother who saw more potential in me than she could nurture alone, Mooseheart became the beacon of stability and opportunity I desperately needed.

It was during my time at Mooseheart that I first learned the meaning of a “true community.” Surrounded by caring family teachers with whom I still keep in contact, counselors, fellow students, and my housemates, I experienced firsthand the power of compassion and support.

My journey since Mooseheart has taken me down paths I never imagined possible. From becoming a small business owner to proudly serving as a GySgt in the United States Marine Corps, every achievement has been a testament to the resilience and strength instilled in me during my formative years at Mooseheart.

My proudest accomplishment remains being a mother to three beautiful children – a role that Mooseheart prepared me for in ways I never could have anticipated.

The Mooseheart community extends far beyond its physical boundaries. This became abundantly clear to me during a particularly challenging time, a deployment to the Middle East. In the midst of the hardships and separation from my family, Mooseheart once again demonstrated its unwavering support.

I’ll never forget the day I received a package filled with letters and cards, some from my former family teacher, my counselor, Executive Director Gary Urwiler and current Mooseheart students and faculty. Their words of encouragement and solidarity lifted my spirits in ways I cannot adequately describe. It was a poignant reminder that Mooseheart isn’t just a place – it’s a family that stands together in times of joy and adversity alike.

Thank you all for your unwavering support, and may we continue to inspire and empower future generations together. ■

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*Using U.S. and imported parts.

Urwiler "Lingers" On Mooseheart Success

While the International Convention is a fast-paced event, Mooseheart Executive Director Gary Urwiler asked the Moose to take a moment while he talked and "linger" on some of the achievements from the past 12 months.

"I think everyone enjoys an opportunity to linger," Urwiler said. "It can be enjoyed by the young, the very old and everyone in between. I love to linger with my family. We always recall really great stories and end up laughing for hours. However, sometimes I also like to linger along, with a fishing pole in my hand and a quiet lake in front of me."

Urwiler added that some of the challenges the campus has faced since the COVID-19 pandemic began are easing.

"Let's linger over the progress made since the pandemic," Urwiler said. "We have transparently shared our struggle with staffing issues since the onset of COVID-19. Due to a snowball effect, this caused us to have a decline in our enrollment. These, however, are not the first challenges experienced at Mooseheart. The challenges we have faced in our existence have provided us with opportunities for growth and greater hope for the future. Challenges always cause us to be more rooted, so in turn, we are able to grow."

Urwiler added that Mooseheart graduates are making good use of the scholarships the Fraternity has afforded them, and that three alumni received bachelor's degrees in 2024:

- Haneefah Aileru (Class of 2020), who graduated from Aurora University with a degree in Business.
- Eloy Munoz (Class of 2019), who graduated from the University of Illinois with degrees in Criminology and also Criminal Justice.
- Tyrek Ware (Class of 2019), who graduated from the University of Illinois with degrees in both Rehab Sciences and Applied Health Sciences Administration.

75,000 Moose Rewards Bonus Points announced for any Moose who recommends a Family Teacher who is ultimately hired at Mooseheart **(See page 28).**

• 75,000 Moose Rewards Points can also be earned if a Moose member recommends a child to come to Mooseheart.

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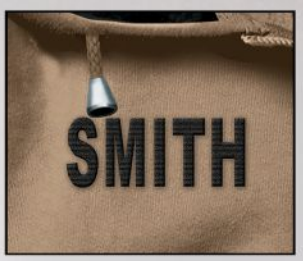

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2024-25 School Year Gets Underway!

Smiles were everywhere as Mooseheart's students returned to start the campus' 111th school year. There were new lockers and desks to fill, a first Pledge of Allegiance and time to meet both old friends and make new acquaintances. **Mooseheart IL Chapter 3001** brightened things with an ice cream party the day before classes began and by handing out water bottles to all students. ■

"Skills in Action" Award
Anthony Hopkins-Horton
"Skills in Action" Award
Jeannine Briceno

new @ mooseheart

Welcome Ramblers!

Jacklington Debah
Arrived: 8/12/24
Sponsor: Fenton, MI
Chapter 2364

Elijah Gaye
Arrived: 8/27/24
Sponsor: Richmond, MI
Lodge 2575

Jaylen Hope
Arrived: 8/13/24
Sponsor: North Pole, AK
Lodge 306

Olga Keza
Arrived: 8/2/24
Sponsor: Lockport, IL
Lodge 1557

Milton Kranto
Arrived: 8/6/24
Sponsor: Rapid City, SD
Chapter 1221

Shekemi Olasunkanmi
Arrived: 8/20/24
Sponsor: Luray, VA
Family Center 1413

Shetemi Olasunkanmi
Arrived: 8/20/24
Sponsor: Luray, VA
Family Center 1413

Kendra Robison
Arrived: 7/10/24
Sponsor: Chesapeake, VA
Chapter 947

Joshua Sulu
Arrived: 8/27/24
Sponsor: Braham, MN
Lodge 1544

Martin Sulu
Arrived: 8/27/24
Sponsor: Ravenna, OH
Lodge 1234

Tony Sulu
Arrived: 8/27/24
Sponsor: Glouster, OH
Lodge 1197

Samantha Teah
Arrived: 7/22/24
Sponsor: Cortland, OH
Lodge 1012

Xannon Terrell
Arrived: 5/24/24
Sponsor: Kirksville, MO
Lodge 1751

Angel Yeanay
Arrived: 9/5/24
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Chapter 1248

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Children begin their formal education in nursery school followed by elementary, middle, and then high school. Class sizes are small, generally with 10 or fewer students. Each student is encouraged to choose a career path in addition to earning an academic diploma. Extracurricular activities are also offered.

At the heart of the program are Family Teachers — providing a consistent, systematic method of care, with emphasis on social skills development — skills essential for success in later life.

Being a Family Teacher is one of the most rewarding jobs you can find. Mooseheart's Family Teachers are the driving force that guide and empower youth to aim high and succeed. They create a wholesome home environment for the students - some of whom have never experienced this before. Family Teachers are the backbone of our program.

If this is of interest to you, or if you know someone who wants to work with children (perhaps as a part of our Mooseheart team), please contact our Recruiter; Angela Jackson, 630-906-3623 or email ajackson@mooseheart.org.

We've Found the Most Beautiful Endangered Species

Theirs sold at auction for $226,000. Ours is JUST $29! Curious? Read on!

To art nouveau jewelers at the turn of the last century, nothing was more beautiful than the dragonfly. In the dragonfly's long body and outstretched wings, jewelers found the perfect setting for valuable stones. These jewelers' dragonfly designs have become timeless statements of style; a dragonfly pendant designed by French jeweler René Lalique recently sold at auction for $226,000. Inspired by his stunning artistry, we've crafted our Dragonfly Nouvelle Collection, an elegant jewelry set for **JUST $29!**

True artisanship in Austrian crystal and yellow gold. This necklace and earring set features gorgeous multicolored enamel paired with Austrian crystals and a yellow gold finish. Ask any jeweler and they'll tell you it takes true artisanship to properly blend the blues and purples found in this enamel. While art nouveau dragonflies are hard to come by, we're helping to repopulate their numbers with this artfully stylized depiction of some of nature's smallest wonders!

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Hart's Opening Speech Inspires

Moose-sponsored NASCAR driver Ross Chastain joined CEO Scott Hart on-stage during the Joint Opening to the International Convention.

From the moment he took the stage some minutes before the official start of the International Convention in New Orleans, Moose CEO Scott Hart was in a good mood and ready to lead some celebrations. As is his habit, Hart called on several Moose associations to have them cheer their presence in the convention hall.

After the formalities to open the convention, Hart returned to the microphone – and he was ready to keep the audience involved as well.

Using the side video boards as prompts, Hart got the Moose to ask questions, which he then answered. The result was full-throated revelry as the Fraternity marked another Membership triumph.

Early in the interactive speech, the Moose asked Hart what was on his mind.

"So, I have been thinking. What in the tarnation is going on in the Moose Fraternity?" Hart said. "In Orlando, we celebrated a gain of:"

The Moose read the response from the screens: "5,120 members."

Hart continued, "Wow, you must have been paying attention to what I said last year. In 2021-22, we did grow by 5,120 members, and then we showed up in Reno and managed a respectable gain of:"

The Moose – reading from the videoboard – responded with, "22,965."

While the crowd laughed, Hart said, "Amazing. Your recall is spot-on. Yes, we grew by an additional 22,965 in 2022-23."

"Then, we kick off our Proud Past, Bright Future campaign, and our sponsors are now in overdrive, as we show up in New Orleans, celebrating a gain of:"

Taking the words off the video screens, the Moose shouted, "30,292 members!"

"Yeah!" Hart exclaimed. "We did indeed grow by 30,292 to close out our 2024 Moose Year. Through the first two months of this new Moose Year, we were already up by:"

The Moose called out, "27,577!"

While Hart admitted there is still a long way to go before the end of the membership campaign on April 30, the "Embrace Our Communities" campaign is off to a strong start.

"We are absolutely rocking it," Hart said.

As Hart said, "We are absolutely trending for what has been called:"

Once more, the Moose provided the answer from the video boards: "One more for four!"

"I am glad to see we are all on the same page regarding this thing called membership," Hart said.

The Moose had one further question for Hart, "What is our membership goal?" As Hart continued his address, he prompted the crowd, by asking, "Since you seem to have all the right answers tonight, do you happen to have a membership goal in mind that will stretch our Fraternity and make us twice as determined as before?"

Reading from the video screens, the Moose shouted, "One million members!"

With that, Hart stepped to the front of the stage and continued his interactive address, but without the video boards.

He asked those sitting on the left of the convention hall were prompted to call out "One!"

Those in the center yelled out "Million!" and those on the right called out "Moose!" – and Hart prompted the Moose to repeat it over and over, as if at a pep rally.

With that rousing kickoff, the Fraternity was ready to celebrate, learn and share during its time in New Orleans. ■

Our strategic goal is to increase membership and to eventually reach one million members.

2023-24 Moose International Board of Directors

Back row, from left Mark Penzkover, Brian Toseki, Kirk Schoepp, Sandy Johnston, Bruce Snider PIP, Wendy Matthew. Front row, Jr. Past Chairman Bruce Masopust, Chairman John Sipes, CEO Scott Hart PIP PSG, Vice-Chairman Robert Funkey, Chaplain John Reiter.

WATCH ROSS DRIVE THE NO. 1 MOOSE CAMARO FOR A FINAL TIME ON NOV. 3 AT THE XFINITY 500 AT MARTINSVILLE SPEEDWAY.

CHASTAIN

A two-week break in the NASCAR Cup Series schedule during the Summer Olympics in Paris opened a window for Ross Chastain to attend the New Orleans International Moose Convention.

Chastain took full advantage of the opportunity. The driver of the No. 1 Moose Chevrolet Camaro for Trackhouse Racing, who is also a lead spokesman for the Moose attended the opening day of the convention.

The appearance was just days after he drove the Moose Camaro to 15th place in the Brickyard 400 at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

First, the **Tice and the Shores, FL Lodge 1297** member signed autographs and posed for photos by the show car. Then he joined CEO Scott Hart during the Joint Opening for a question-and-answer interview.

Hart asked Chastain about his many visits to Moose lodges since his partnership with the Moose began in 2019 "It goes back to our first dinner together," Chastain said. "I wanted to know what the Moose wanted to get out of this. I had done my research about the organization and I knew people who were Moose members. And (Hart) said that we want fellowship in the lodges. To see the race parties, I love that you are doing that, and we want to do it even more."

Chastain left the stage to a standing ovation. He drives the No. 1 Moose Camaro for a final time on Nov. 3 at the Xfinity 500 at Martinsville Speedway. ■

Lodge Grants Awarded in September

LaBelle, FL Lodge 2398 - before

LaBelle, FL Lodge 2398 - after

Moose lodges have taken advatage of the Lodge Grant program to make improvements to many areas of their buildings, including rest rooms.

The Moose International Board of Directors had some very difficult decisions to make as they reviewed the extensive list of applications for the 2024-25 Lodge Grant Program. Four hundred and seventy-five lodges applied for a grant, with requests that exceeded $7.3 million. Despite an impressive, but still limited, budget of $1.5 million to distribute during this fiscal year, the Board was unable to finance every proposal, and many worthy projects will have to wait for future grant programs for potential funding. The Board was able to provide funds to 225 lodges this year, however, and exceeded their budgeted total by awarding $1,521,000.

The Lodge Grant Program, first introduced in 2014-15, was designed to provide resources to improve the lodge environment for new and existing members. The theory was, the more comfortable and inviting the lodge home became, the more likely members would want to spend time there. Over the years, $9.5 million has been awarded back to the lodges through this program alone, covering projects such as roof repairs, parking lot refurbishments, HVAC replacements, kitchen upgrades, flooring, restroom renovations, painting, equipment purchases, and more.

Grants were awarded to lodges in almost every state represented by the Fraternity, as well as several Canadian lodges. Sixteen lodges had never received any grant money in the past from Moose International and another 59 lodges received money from this program for the first time, despite receiving grant money in the past from Pandemic Relief Grants and/or Local Marketing Grants.

All lodges that attended the 2024 International Moose Convention in New Orleans, as well as their Association's 2023 Fall Conference and 2024 Midyear Meeting, are still eligible to receive grants in two other programs funded by the Board of Directors; the Local Marketing Grant Program and the new Sign Grant Program. The Board designated $500,000 for Local Marketing Grants and $1 million for Sign Grants. Applications for both programs remain open through the end of the fiscal year or when funds run out, whichever comes first. ■

Information on all grant programs can be found in the Programs/Events section of the Moose International website (**www.mooseintl.org**).

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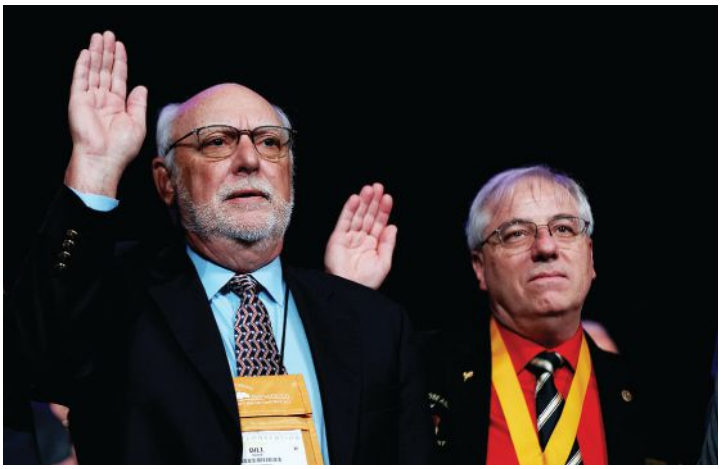
2024-2025 Moose International officers/ boards/committees/ moose legion/wotm



Bill Rose (left) joined the Moose International Board of Directors during the Joint Installation at the International Convention in New Orleans while Mark Penzkover was sworn in as the Chaplain. Heather Morgan is also a new member of the Board of Directors, but was unable to attend the Convention.

Moose International Officers: CEO Scott D. Hart, Past Supreme Governor (PSG), Past International President (PIP), Mooseheart, IL; Chairman of the Board Robert K. Funkey, Grayling, MI; Jr. Past Chairman John R. Sipes, Galion, OH; Vice-Chairman John R. Reiter, Inverness, FL; Director/Chaplain Mark J. K. Penzkover, Muskego, WI; Director Brian J. Toseki, Muncy Valley, PA; Director Kirk G. Schoepp, Williston, ND; Director Sandy Johnston, Longmont, CO; Director Bruce Snider, Woodward, OK; Director Wendy C. Matthew, Chatham, ON; Director Bill Rose, Lodi, NJ; Director Heather Morgan, Pullman, WA; Moose International Sergeant-At-Arms Robert Brasefield, Lindenwold, NJ; Moose International Inner Guard Jon Kunze, Bellefontaine, OH; Moose International Outer Guard Sean Smith, Wyoming, MI.

Supreme Forum: Chief Justice Dwaine G. Brown, Galion, OH; Justice Howard R. DeRose, Branson, MO; Justice Larry Janisse, Tunkhannock, PA; Justice Susan W. Riggle, Jeffersontown, KY; Justice Tony Lowman, Meridian, MS; Justice Patricia Cihak, Charm City East, MD; Justice Andrew Boardley, Rancho Cordova, CA.

Judiciary Committee: Chairman Donald Snovel, Palmer, AK; Peter N. Harrigan, Lindenhurst, NY; Noleta “Sam” Harris, Spencer, NC; Patti Haus Cloquet, MN; Cheryl Volden, Ventura, CA.

Pilgrim Council: Pilgrim President Rodney A. Hammond PSG, Kissimmee, FL; Scott D. Hart PSG PIP, Mooseheart, IL; Willard R. Kitchens PSG, Dallas County, AL; George W. McCullough III PSG, Charlotte, NC; Harry L. Johnston PSG, Greeley-Evans, CO; Bruce J. Berger PSG PIP, Sellersville, PA; Bruce T. Masopust PCB, Lodi, NJ.

Moose Legion Council: Director of Moose Legion & Higher Degrees Shawn Baile PIP, Chickies Rock, PA; Moose Legion Secretary Daniel R. Williams, Sr. PIP, Berkeley Springs, WV; Jr. Past International President Charles L. Barber, Sunnyvale, CA; International President Ronny D. Serio, Knoxville, TN; International Vice-President Robert H. Shaw, Greensboro, NC; Councilman Steve Hennen, Ortonville, MN; Councilman Brian Weaver, East Sussex, DE; Councilman Ted Burton, Meridian, MS; Councilman J.C. Patton Jr. , Woodward, OK.

Heart of the Community Committee: Chairman Greg G. Muter, Sylvania, OH; Mannuel B. Propst, Timberville, VA; Julie Anderson, Panama City, FL; Bridget Robinson, Garden Grove, CA; Linda Goessling, Mascoutah, IL.

Activities Committee: Chairwoman Stephanie Aanonsen, Green Bay, WI ; Matthew L. Boardman Sr., Janesville, WI; Marsha Warrington, Sylvania, OH; Lisa Wise Lindenwold, NJ; Greg Carleton, Stillwater, OK; Jeff Hull, Avondale, AZ; Nicholas "Nick" L. Seeman, St. Cloud, MN.

Loss Prevention Committee: Chairman Fred R. Scott Jr., West Boca Raton, FL; Kelvin Parker, Lindsay, ON; Sharon M. Davis, Anniston, AL; Karen L. Bowman, Hilliard, OH; Larry Konieczny, Dale City, VA.

Membership Committee: Chairman Dan Companion, St Albans, VT; Jill Derr, Greeley-Evans, CO; Cathy Rossi, Warrenton, VA; Robert Leon, San Jose, CA; Sharon Davis, Sanford, FL; James "Mike" Perdue, Rockingham, NC.

Moose Charities Board: Chairman Bruce J. Berger PSG PIP, Sellersville, PA; CEO Scott D. Hart PSG PIP, Mooseheart, IL; Chairman of the Board Robert K. Funkey, Grayling, MI; Leonie “Lea” Richardson, Mascoutah, IL; Donald Ridenhour, Salem, VA; Joy Bliss, Albert Lea, MN; Michael Shane, Hobart, IN; Dan Prouty Newark, OH; Patty Cavanaugh, East Mesa, AZ.

Mooseheart Board: Chairman Harry L. Johnston PSG, Greeley-Evans, CO; CEO Scott D. Hart PSG PIP, Mooseheart, IL; Chairman of the Board Robert K. Funkey, Grayling, MI; Rebecca Hoffarth, Kennewick, WA; Nanci Statler, Newport, NC; Daniel Humphreys, Erwin, TN; Jamie Ellis, Indiana, PA; Andrew Vonville, Marietta, OH; James Floyd, Henderson, KY.

Moosehaven Board: Chairman Bruce T. Masopust PCB, Lodi, NJ; CEO Scott D. Hart PSG PIP, Mooseheart, IL; Chairman of the Board Robert K. Funkey, Grayling, MI; Christine Brooks, Horseheads, NY; Terry Treadwell, Woodbridge, VA; Susan Grooms, Miamisburg, OH; Dan Oneal, Orlando, FL; Karyn Johnson, Monroe, WI; William "Bill" Thompson, Yuba City, CA.

Grand Council: Barbara McPherson, Grand Chancellor, Woodstock, IL; Grand Regent Verna Miller, Lake Havasu City, AZ ; Jr. Past Grand Regent Debby Evans, Twin Falls, ID; Katherine Coppinger, Thompsonville, CT; Kathleen Furlong, Hudson, NJ; Wanda Kellogg, Canton, GA; Rosa Rice, Juneau, AK; Karen Ingram, Portland, OR; Dina Munday, Hayward-Castro Valley, CA; Tammy Trulove, Surfside Beach, SC; Debra Wallaert, Birch Run, MI; Executive Project Manager Denielle Baile, Chickies Rock, PA.

International Higher Degrees Board: President Norma Tibbs, Fort Pierre, SD; Jill Derr, Greeley-Evans, CO; Linda Franklin, Enid, OK; Cindy Fridley, Charles Town, WV; Tamara Bornath, East London, ON; Kimberly Kelly, Dunnellon, FL; Cheryl Ripp, Monroe, WI.

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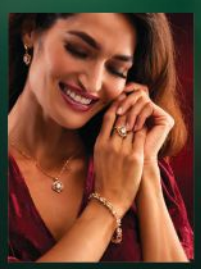

Discover the enchanting allure of our Two Heart Necklace, where love's symphony unfolds in timeless elegance. Inspired by that moment, when it all clicks and you realize you have found the one.... and where two become one, this exquisite piece captures the essence of two hearts entwined in a dance of destiny. Crafted with precision and passion and encased in 14k gold, it embodies the essence of your enduring love, echoing the sentiments of Shakespeare's sonnets and the romances of Jane Austen. Our client's favorite, it is now priced at its lowest ever even as gold reaches a record high, awarding it a stellar 4.9-star rating in reviews making it the Gift of the Year. Embrace the magic of shared dreams and whispered promises with the Two Heart Necklace, a treasure to cherish for generations to come.

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Chairman Robert Funkey Begins Travels

As I addressed the International Convention in New Orleans, I first played a clip from the movie Facing the Giants, where a player carries another player on his back and is supposed to "death crawl" to the 50-yard line. As the scene unfolds, and with his coach constantly exhorting him to not give up and to give his best – the player ultimately collapses from the effort – having made it the entire 100-yard length from one end zone to the other.

It was an intense video, and I showed it for a reason. The player in question lacked motivation to be a leader, and through moments like the "death crawl" scene, he found his ability to lead.

The movie centers on the coach's ability to motivate his team. When his approach to the players seems extreme, we discover he is mentoring them.

I believe we will achieve "One More in Twenty-four" – a fourth straight year of membership growth – because our Moose mentors, the coaches, treat us as brothers and sisters and encourage us to be our best.

Our Membership Department and hard-working field staff "coaches" mentor our lodges every day. Their goal is to instill confidence in our lodge leaders, provide them with the tools they will need to succeed, and encourage them to be the best they can be. The milestones our Fraternity has reached have shown us that success will follow.

There is a phrase that I have tried to live by which says, "In order to become the person you wish to become, you first must walk, talk, act, and dress as though you already were that person." While this is good advice for each of us, the message applies to our Moose lodges as well.

In order for a Moose lodge to become the best that it can be, we must first ask ourselves, "How should we act?" Are we really the friendliest place in town? Do our members, guests and families feel welcome? Are we truly a Fraternity of brothers and sisters who care about one another as family? The answer to these questions should be a resounding "yes" because that is how we will accomplish "One More in Twenty-Four."

Cathy and I look forward to each and every one of our visits during this coming year as your Chairman of the Board. ■

In order to become the person you wish to become, you first must walk, talk, act, and dress as though you already were that person. While this is good advice for each of us, the message applies to our Moose lodges as well.

— Robert K. Funkey 2024-25
Chairman of the Board

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Look For Opportunities To Show True Leadership

Leadership is more than just portraying confidence in a role or getting people to subscribe to your ideals.

— Mike Rios, Director of Membership

We are constantly told to "lead by example" and some of us interpret it as confidence while behind the podium. It's something I thought about while I was speaking to the International Convention in New Orleans in July.

People are watching us. People were watching me, and I had plenty to be optimistic about – three straight years of membership growth and a strong start to the 2024-25 campaign.

However, leadership is more than just portraying confidence in a role or getting people to subscribe to your ideals.

Leadership is:

Returning the cart at the store.

Paying it forward and mentoring someone to take your place.

Smiling in the face of adversity. Picking-up trash you didn't create.

It's not how well you speak or dress; it's what's in your heart and how you help and share.

Being voted onto a lodge board to make changes for a particular group is not leadership. Working with others to make a positive change while considering everyone – that is leadership. There are many definitions, it is nothing more than a dictatorship if you don't do it from the heart. Return the cart: Somebody's watching.

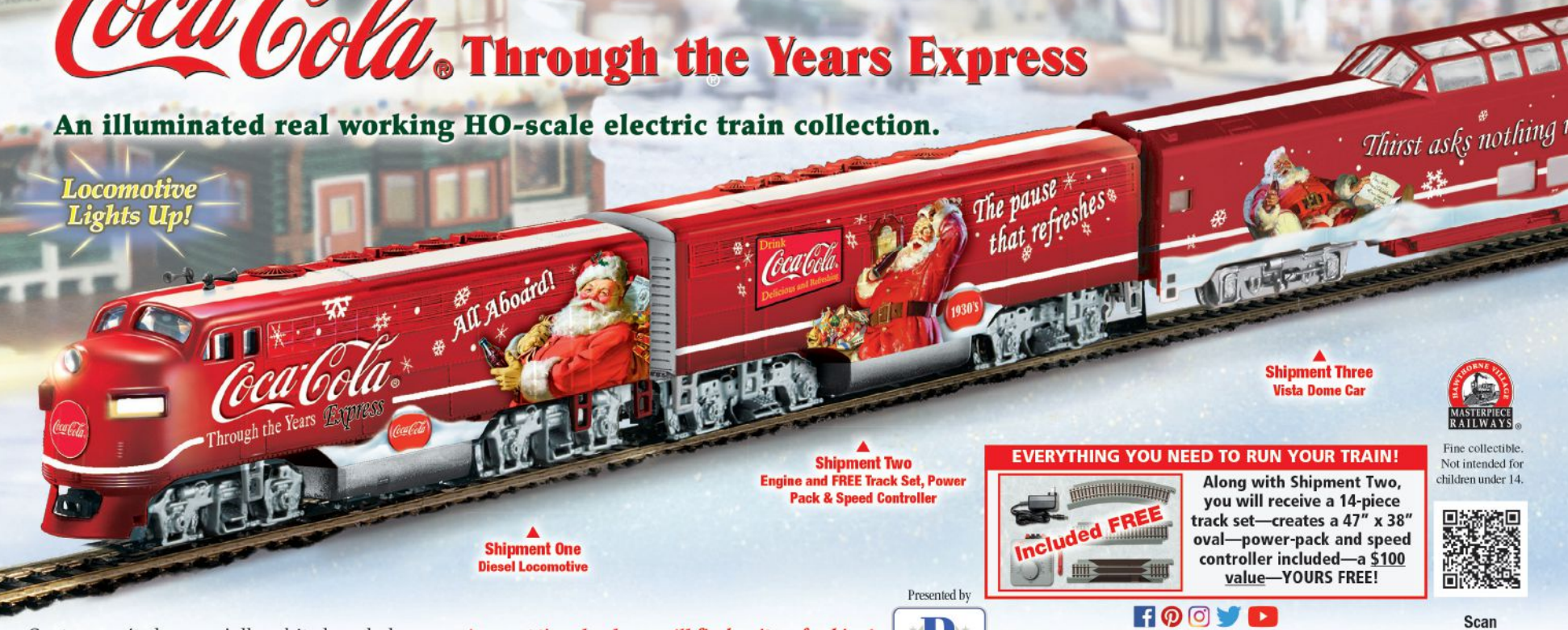
Congratulations to all who have been leading our drive for a fourth straight year of Membership growth. Congratulations also to the Montana Moose Association, who claimed the Top Association banner in New Orleans for its efforts in 2023-24.

Members of the Montana Moose Association earned the Top Association honors.

Refresh your holiday memories aboard the

Coca-Cola® Through the Years Express

An illuminated real working HO-scale electric train collection.



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Fine collectible. Not intended for children under 14.

Santa wasn't always a jolly white-bearded man in a red suit. In fact, the beloved holiday icon that we know and love today didn't arrive until 1931 thanks to the holiday advertising of *COCA-COLA*®. In tribute to more than 90 years of the *COCA-COLA* Santa, Hawthorne presents the *COCA-COLA Through the Years Express*.

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Begin your illuminated HO-scale train collection with the Diesel Locomotive, yours for three easy payments of $29.99 each*, the first billed before shipment. Subsequent train cars—including the **FREE** tracks, power-pack and speed controller...a $100 value!—will be billed separately, each at the same attractive price and sent about one every other month. Your collection is backed by our best-in-the-business 365-day guarantee, and you may cancel at any time. *Send no money now.* Simply complete and mail the Reservation Application or visit us online today!

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Campus A Beehive Of Activity

A wonderful celebration occurred in mid-August, when Past Grand Regent Karol ("With a K") Smith married Donald Bult in the Moosehaven chapel.

When she addressed the International Convention in New Orleans, Moosehaven Executive Director Helen Taylor had a very full year of activities and projects to recap.

In the weeks after the convention, that activity continued, especially with regard to the AAA (Always Active At Moosehaven) project, which moved into a visible new phase when demolition of the New York Sports Complex began.

As those walls came down and the debris was carried away, the stage was set for construction of the Sports Complex and Riverfront Pavilion – which together comprise the AAA project – to begin.

Taylor provided a virtual tour of the complex, and added that, "I know you are proud of what, together, we've accomplished."

Throughout the year, Moosehaven's Heart of the Community events keep both the residents and Orange Park, FL community members in motion.

For many years Moosehaven hosted Orange Park's American Pride Fourth of July celebration, and this year was no different, with thousands enjoying food, music and fireworks.

"Because of your generosity, Moosehaven also reaches beyond the gates of our beautiful campus to "Embrace our Community" with various events throughout the year through our Heart of the Community Program. These events reflect the Moose commitment to embrace our communities," Taylor said.

Moosehaven's residents also remain active. For example, **Torrington, NY Lodge 664** member and Moosehaven resident Rodney Harris was in the House of God in June to receive the Pilgrim Degree of Merit.

"Upon his return to Moosehaven, residents welcomed him home with celebration after celebration," Taylor said. ■

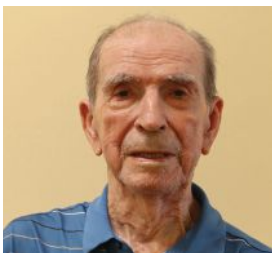
new@moosehaven

Welcome Home!

Frederick "Fred" Behm
Arrived: 8/19/24
Sponsor: Lock City, NY
Lodge 617

Mark Easterling
Arrived: 7/19/24
Sponsor: Lake Shore, FL
Lodge 2020

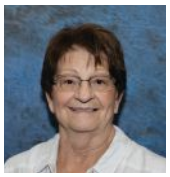
Patricia "Patty" Souder
Arrived: 8/21/24
Sponsor: Painesville, OH
Lodge 490



Theodore "Ted" Zalinski
Arrived: 2/28/24
Sponsor: Lake Shore, FL
Lodge 2020

Increased Membership Is Another Sign Of WOTM Strength

2024-2025 Higher Degrees Board



Norma Tibbs
President
Fort Pierre, SD

Tamara Bornath
East London, ON

Kimberly Kelly
Dunnellon, FL

Cheryl Ripp
Monroe, WI

2024 - 2025 Grand Council

Karen Ingram
Portland, OR

Dina Munday
Hayward-Castro Valley, CA

Tammy Trulove
Surfside Beach, SC

Debra Wallaert
Birch Run, MI

While these are times of change for the Women of the Moose, their numbers are growing.

That was the positive news Grand Chancellor Barb McPherson delivered at the International Convention in New Orleans.

During the 2023-24 campaign, 62 percent of WOTM chapters showed an increase – and the overall gain was 1,101. That gave the organization back-to-back years of increased membership.

McPherson said that the Women of the Moose remain an organization in transition. Through 2023-24, 58 chapters closed or merged with other chapters.

"Eight of those chapters were over 100 years old," McPherson said. "I just don't understand how chapters can endure through tough times yet when they should be celebrating success they choose not to survive."

McPherson pointed to the increased leadership influence women have in The Moose. At the association level, there are 160 female officers, and women are the majority of some association boards. Women are also joining The Moose in droves. For example, 72,597 women joined the Fraternity in 2023-24.

"The Women of the Moose are still a very powerful force within the organization. We bring new skills and talents to our lodges to make them better and stronger. The same is true in many of our associations," McPherson said.

McPherson addressed the continued modernization of the Women of the Moose, but she said, "My advice for dealing with change is to take baby steps. While you are doing it, remember why we exist as an organization and why the Women of the Moose are a very vital part of this Fraternity. We continue to provide daily needs for those who depend on us at Mooseheart and Moosehaven."

Overall, McPherson said, "It's not all gloom and doom. Many of our chapters are flourishing. They are the ones that meet more than once a month and are having fun, interesting and informative get togethers to keep their members interested. They are filling the need for human interaction with activities and personal relationships."

McPherson also noted that, "Several chapters who previously closed now realize that they miss the fun, dedication and personal interaction of their chapter and want to start over." ■

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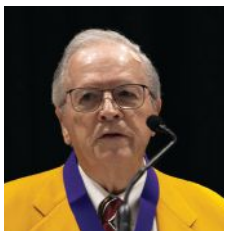
Late Surge Gives Moose Legion Third Straight Membership Gain

On April 1, the idea that the Moose Legion would realize a third straight year of membership growth seemed fanciful, at best. The Moose Legion was down 2,672 members with one month left in the Proud Past, Bright Future campaign.

Moose Legion Ritual Competition and Conference
Oct. 31 - Nov. 3
Valley Forge Casino Resort
King of Prussia, PA

J.C. Patton Jr. is the newest Moose Legion Councilman 2024-2025



Earl Shelton Honorary Past International President

As Director of Moose Legion and Higher Degrees Shawn Baile recounted it, "Thanks to the hard work of Moose Legionnaires throughout the Fraternity, we added 2,975 active members through membership renewals and new member conferrals during the month of April, which took us across the finish line successfully."

The Moose Legion finished the year with an increase of 304 members and opened the 2024-25 campaign with 53,472 members.

"We were able to realize a membership gain this year thanks to 7,324 Moose Legion membership applications that were submitted, which exceeded the previous year by 267 applications, and a membership retention rate of 84%," Baile said.

At the International Convention in New Orleans, the Moose Legion Council presidency transitioned from Chuck Barber to Ronny Serio. **Woodward, OK Lodge 452** member J.C. Patton joined the council.

The Moose Legion also conferred the title of Honorary Past International President on **Greensboro, NC Lodge 685** member Earl Shelton, who joined Tar Heel (NC) Moose Legion 158 in 1963!

Among financial successes, Baile mentioned that Moose Legions raised nearly $118,000 toward its ongoing capital project to fund renovations to the Museum of Moose History, which is located on the Mooseheart campus.

The goal for the 2023-24 President's Project was to raise $52,000 for a tractor and box blade for Moosehaven. That initial goal was met with one-third of the year remaining, so a second goal – $15,000 for a wood chipper for Moosehaven was set – and met.

That meant a third target was set – $12,000 for commercial landscaping equipment for Moosehaven. Moose Legions raised that money as well, which meant a total of $82,000 was raised, $30,000 more than the initial funding target.

The next major function for the Moose Legion is its Ritual Competition and Conference, which takes place Oct. 31 - Nov. 3 at the Valley Forge Casino Resort in King of Prussia, PA. ■

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T. J. Robinson, aka The Olive Oil Hunter®, is one of the world's most respected authorities on all matters of olive oil. Known for his "platinum palate," he is one of the few Americans invited to serve as a judge in Italian olive oil tasting competitions.

If you've never tasted extra virgin olive oil fresh from the farm, get ready for a revelation...

As the culinary experts at America's Test Kitchen have said, when it comes to olive oil, ***"the fresher, the better."***

Freshness endows olive oil with extraordinary flavor because the olive is a fruit and olive oil is a fruit juice. Just like other fruit juices such as orange juice, olive oil is at its zenith of robust flavor and nutritional goodness when fresh-pressed.

Your first taste of fresh-pressed olive oil will be a revelation. Just born of earth and tree, farm-fresh olive oil is bright, vivid, and grassy, like a garden in a bottle.

Problem is, you can't find farm-fresh olive oil in supermarkets. That's because most olive oils are sent here by slow cargo ships, perhaps months or even a year after the harvest in their native country. Then these oils sit on store shelves for more months, even years, growing dull, lifeless, stale, and finally rancid.

Never again tolerate stale oil!

Of course, we all insist on fresh milk, fresh eggs, fresh fish, fresh meat, fresh fruit, and fresh vegetables. In every case, freshness makes a big difference in flavor and nutrition, right?

Don't we deserve fresh olive oil? *Of course!* But you'll never find it in supermarkets. However, now you can have it delivered to your door direct from the latest harvests at top-rated, gold medal-winning artisanal farms.

At last, a farm-to-table solution

My name is T. J. Robinson. As a food writer and former chef, I've launched an exclusive club for those who, like me, demand nothing less than the freshest, most flavorful, and purest artisanal olive oils in the world. Our group is called the Fresh-Pressed Olive Oil Club.

How the club works

Four times a year, I travel to the latest olive harvests around the world. From scores of the finest extra virgin olive oils at award-winning artisanal farms, I choose the three best oils of the harvest. Then I rush a three-bottle set to each of my eagerly awaiting club members. Conveniently, this works out to one bottle per month.

Members can choose either the larger set (three 16.9 oz. bottles) for $139 per quarter…or the smaller set (three 8.45 oz. bottles) for $99 per quarter. These prices include all shipping and handling.

For this reasonably modest sum, you'll enjoy three months of outrageously flavorful farm-fresh olive oil rushed to you direct from the harvest. Members say these best-of-the-best fresh oils are well worth the cost, since each bottle elevates dozens of meals to new heights of dining pleasure.

Every oil is independently lab certified to be 100% extra virgin olive oil. Every oil also comes with a 100% money-back guarantee. You don't even have to return the oil to receive your 100% refund.

Every oil arrives with a Pressing Report that helps you cultivate your palate, quickly turning you into a connoisseur of the finest extra virgin olive oils in the world. I also include lots of delicious kitchen-tested recipes from each oil's native land, plus profiles of the proud artisans who produced each oil.

The club is truly an adventure in olive oil appreciation. Your family and guests will love these oils.

Available nowhere else in America, these oils have caused quite a sensation in the food world.

TV Chef Chris Kimball says:

"When we tasted T. J.'s harvest-fresh olive oils here at Milk Street, we fell in love with their vibrant, grassy flavors."

Food journalist Larry Olmsted writes in his best-selling book Real Food/Fake Food, "I now get most of my oil from T. J. Robinson's Fresh-Pressed Olive Oil Club, and every time I open a bottle, my kitchen literally fills up with the smell of fresh-crushed olives—the scent explodes out of the bottle. Just breaking the seal transports me to Italy or Spain or Chile."

"I have died and gone to Italy!!!"

Jennifer of Newport, RI, reports, "I have died and gone to Italy!!! I love these oils."

Joy of Salem, OR, writes, "Words cannot describe this! Pssst—since no one else was around, I even licked my plate clean—yummy!"

Try a free full-size bottle and then decide

All I ask is that you try one of my full-size bottles—on the house—and then decide. There's no commitment to buy anything, ever.

The only reason we can make such a generous free-sample offer is because the vast majority of those who try our olive oil want more of it. I believe you will, too, once you try this divine harvest-fresh olive oil on your crisp salads, delicate fish, grilled steaks, fresh veggies, or luscious pastas, or simply on a hunk of warm, crusty bread or with a slice of tangy cheese. *Mmm—so delish!*

Happy drizzling!

T. J. Robinson

My prove-it-to-yourself offer:
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Massive Support From Moose Members

Above, **Anna Maria Island, FL Lodge 2188** member Steve Bonberger presented a $50,000 donation to Moose Charities. Right, **Charles Town, WV Lodge 948** Administrator Heather Fauble and Tina Miller with Moose Charities Executive Director Pam Amundsen.

Moose Charities Sweepstakes Winners

$25,000	John Bergo	OK
$25,000	Dave Chojnacki	WI
$10,000	William Allgeier	MI
$5,000	Barbara Clark	CA
$4,000	Cathy Graves	FL
$3,000	John Wiggins	NH
$2,000	Virginia Sears	MI
$1,000	Robert Heebner	SC

Moose Charities Executive Director Pam Amundsen had a story to tell at the International Convention about one donation she received this year, and how important that donation was.

The donation began when **Slidell, LA Lodge 2038** member Penny Mutz-Youmans realized she had a gaming ticket from the 2023 International Convention in Reno that was uncashed. Penny wanted to turn that ticket into a donation, so she contacted Regional Manager Jimmie Woods, in Texas, who sent the ticket to Regional Manager Mo Kahn, in Nevada. Kahn cashed the ticket and sent the donation to Moose Charities.

The total of the donation was $39.50.

"This $39.50 is important!" said Amundsen. "The effort to get that donation to Moose Charities shows that Moose members, in true Moose fashion, go above and beyond to provide for the children at Mooseheart and seniors at Moosehaven."

Amundsen had an abundance of good news to share prior to the start of the March of Checks.

Fiscal donations to Moose Charities in 2023-24 totaled **$17.83** million.

- More than **$5 million** was donated to the Endowment Fund through endowment donations, cradle and rocker fundraisers and the contributions to the Donors Circle.
- The annual cradle and rocker donations brought in **$371,181** on their own.
- Moosehaven's AAA (Always Active At Moosehaven) project received **$8.16 million** in donations.
- Moose Charities' two sweepstakes drawings (see winners at left) raised **$831,068**.
- The Donors Circle brought in **$650,346** while the m+m Club added an additional **$444,697**.

This year's March of Checks at the convention raised **$524,517**, including a $50,000 donation by **Anna Maria Island, FL Lodge 2188**! ■

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Thu, Sept 4	Hubbard Glacier(Cruising)	11:00 am	2:00 pm
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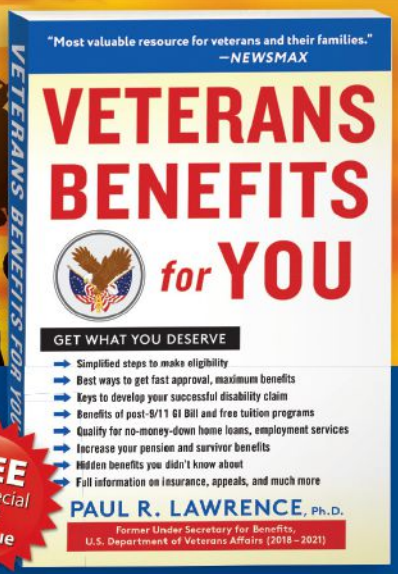
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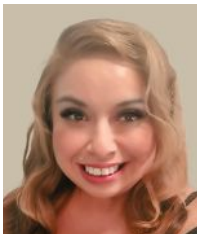

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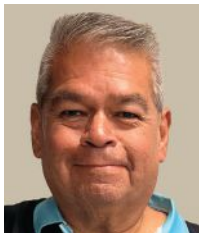

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Paul Schmidt
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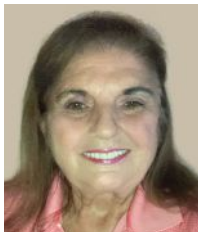

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James A. Baker '07 St. Cloud, MN 1400
Richard D. Beaudry '16 Port Huron, MI 158
John E. Callison '23 Wood River, IL 1349
John R. Emery '02 East Liverpool, OH 122
James F. Henley '91 Tallahassee, FL 1075
Jesse W. Johnson '96 Fostoria, OH 1567
Floyd E. McPherson '94 Woodstock, IL 1329
Charles H. Meithof '93 Stayton, OR 2639
Robert O. "Bob" Mitchell '08 Annapolis, MD 296
Glen M. Nelson '93 Proctor, MN 1302
Richard V. Rubeck Sr. '13 Elyria, OH 778
Calvin C. Rudd '00 Valparasio, IN 1357
Pecos D. Snelling '02 Sonora, CA 2183
Philip A. Stevens '79 Greenfield, MA 997
Walter W. Stoddard '18 Cortland, OH 1012
Richard W. Wolfe '22 Daytona Beach, FL 1263

Heidi Bailey '97 Granite City, IL 247
Cecelia Bender '95 Lindenwold, NJ 440
Bondalyn Bergman '94 Monticello, IN 1534
Marles Biskobing '98 West Bend, WI 732
Constance Black '98 East Hartford, CT 1470
Katherine L. Boyd '68 Arlington, VA 1253
Irene Cassidy '78 Rapid City, SD 1221
Wynema R. Clendenney '05 Leesburg, FL 1034
Christine Crickmore '14 Rocky Mount, NC 123
Rena Cruz '09 San Jose, CA 643
Shirley Culver '13 Tiffin, OH 1001
Candy M. Faile '15 Charlotte, NC 1411
Audrey Ferrari '59 Woodstock, ON 1012
Betty E. Ferrell '83 Elizabeth City, NC 1449
Rebecca A. Frenzel '90 College Park, MD 1262
Joan Guzzo '92 Prescott, AZ 886
Georgia Haas '76 Centralia, IL 223
Hazel W. Hall Roland '97 Harrington, DE 1229
Erma Herrold '70 Santa Monica, CA 809
Judy Hutchinson '87 Cullman, AL 1318
Mary Joubert '89 Kankakee, IL 143
Terry L. Jovich '16 Niles, OH 113
Mary Kieffer '78 Mt Carmel, IL 415
Marilyn LaGrange '98 Port Huron, MI 99
Wanda K. Livesay '07 Centralia, IL 223
Cathy Mathieson '16 Kearney Mesa, CA 1337
Julia McMullen '09 East Sussex, DE 2204
Phyllis C. Miner '08 Rapid City, SD 1221
Lois Moore '82 New Kensington, PA 711
Anna J. Routzahn '12 Frederick, MD 347
Judith Russell '19 Port St Lucie, FL 1236
Lucille Sayers '98 Trumbull, OH 688
Rita Schaus '76 Kitchener, ON 634
Elizabeth Seemueller '79 Columbus, OH 206
Carol Seibert '85 Mascoutah, IL 392
Judith Specht '94 Geneseo, IL 577
Frieda Stanley '77 Pembroke Pines, FL 1056
Betty Vernon '95 Powell River, BC 1173
Beverly Westbrook '84 Fremont, MI 401
Barbara Wilson '98 Lenoir, NC 140

— Information supplied from 6/11 - 8/6/24

save the date

Mooseheart

Founder's Day Weekend
october 25-27

Rudolph Run
november 23

Wisconsin Tree Lighting
december 7

Moosehaven

102nd Anniversary Celebration
october 3

Heart of the Community Halloween Event
october 31

Chili Cook-Off
november 9

Georgia Tree Lighting
december 7

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